

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Simmons W869

Charlotte

fn36SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/28/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: the digital images of this veteran's original application as posted on both Footnote.com and HeritageQuest.com all very faint. Consequently, the transcription that follows should be used with caution.]

State of Tennessee Davidson County: SS

On this 3rd of December 1833 personally appeared in open court before me James C Mitchell, one of the [words too faint to discern] Judges in and for the State of Tennessee, now presiding [one or more indecipherably faint words], Jesse Simmons a resident of Robertson County and State of Tennessee aged 72 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

I was born in Richmond County South Carolina in the year 1761 and lived in that County during the Revolutionary War, and left that country in the year 1796 for this State and have lived in the Counties of Davidson and Robertson ever since. In the year 1776 about the month of September of that year, I was called into service with others by the constituted authorities of South Carolina to defend Savannah in the State of Georgia, which was attacked by the British armies and taken possession of before I reached that place. I was marched into the service sometime in the month of September 1776. We marched from home to Moncks Corner, where a large number of soldiers were stationed; from thence to a place called the Quarter house six miles from Charleston; from thence was ordered to Plurisburg [Purrysburg] a little town on Savannah River, the line between the States of South Carolina and Georgia, where we joined head quarters under the command of General Lincoln. We remained at Purrysburg until we were discharged by the officers. He was in no engagement during this tour, as Savannah was taken before he reached the place. He was a militia man and served 3 months on this tour was commanded by Captain William Simmons, who was the father of this applicant. Colonel Goodwin and General Richardson, the militia officers.

In the year 1781, I was again called into the service under the command of Captain James Craig, Colonel Henry Hunter and General Sumter [Thomas Sumter], who marched from Richmond County South Carolina to Orangeburg on which march we had several skirmishes with the British and plundered several of their boats. We made General Sumter's our head quarters on Santee River, after serving a tour of 3 months, we were again disbanded, having served as a private soldier in both of the above tours, received no written discharge.

In a short time after his discharge in the above mentioned tours, and not exactly recollected by this declarant, he was marched by Captain James Craig and Colonel Henry Hunter along the Charleston road towards the Eutaw Springs: about 4 miles from said place we joined General Greene's Army and we were placed under the command of General Pickens. This

declarant was not in the heat of the action at the Eutaw Springs having been placed on a guard to protect some horses a short distance from the field of battle. In this action the Americans were victorious, and the British retreated to Charleston. We were disbanded after the battle having served a tour of 3 months.

He was again called into service in a very short time after his discharge: as well as he now recollects about the time of the surrender of Charleston by the British, or a short time thereafter, in the latter part of the year 1782 or first of the year 1783. He was under the same Captain and Colonel that he was in the last mentioned tours. He marched from home by Orangeburg and joined head quarters on Edisto River commanded by General Richard Henderson [William Henderson?] our principal business was to protect the citizens from the depredations of the Tories. We were principally in scouting parties and at the expiration of 3 months he was again disbanded and went home with the joyous tidings of a general restoration of peace.

This applicant never received any written discharge from his officers, in any of the above named tours. He knows of no living person by whom he can prove his services, owing to the lapse of time and the forgetfulness of extreme old age, and the infirmities consequent thereof. He does not [no] whether his name is on the rolls of military services or not, and knows no person by whom he can prove the same. He assigns as a reason for applying in Davidson County for a pension that he lives as near the Courthouse of Davidson as Robertson and that he can have his business attended to with less trouble and expense. This applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to in open Court by Jesse Simmons December 3rd 1833

S/ Jacob McGavock, Clk

S/ Jesse Simmons

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jesse Simmons". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "J".

[Jonas Shivers, a clergyman, James B. Williams and Robert Weakley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 11: On October 27, 1840 in Robertson County Tennessee, Veteran's widow, Charlotte Simmons, 75, filed a claim for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Jesse Simmons; that she married him in the year 1788 the precise date not recollected; that her husband died August 22nd, 1834 and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 17: family record:

Nancy Simmons was Born June the 13th 1797

Ephraim Simmons was born March the 11th 1802

[fn p. 15: the widow made oath that the above family record is in the handwriting of her husband. She also testified that their first child, a son, name not given, was born in 1790 and died 4 or 5 years after birth.]

Nancy Simmons was born  
June the 13th 1794  
Ephraim Simmons was  
Born March the 11th 1809.

[fn p. 13: On October 27, 1840 in Robertson County Tennessee, Conrad Coon<sup>1</sup> gave testimony that he married the sister of Charlotte Simmons and has been acquainted with her ever since; that he knows that she was married to Jesse Simmons prior to the first of January 1794, and he believes in the year 1788; that they lived together as man and wife until such time as Jesse died in 1834.

Conrad Coon

[fn p. 31: On January 4, 1841 in Robertson County Tennessee, Conrad Coon gave testimony that he lived in Richland County state of South Carolina about 9 miles from the veteran and his wife; that they had a son born in 1790 who lived between 4 and 5 years and died before she had another child; at the same time and place, the widow testified that she was married on twenty-five mile Creek sometime in the summer of 1788 at the home of one Lewis Parry; that she had a child born in 1790 who lived 4 or 5 years and died some time before she had her next child.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one-year service as a private in the South Carolina militia. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843.]

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<sup>1</sup> [Conrad Coon S3177](#)